Dan Brand and Tipi

THE BEAT OF LOG DRUMS THROB LIKE A HEART PULSE THROUGH THE BACKWOODS WILDERNESS. DOTTED CLOUDS OF SMOKE SIGNAL THE CALL OF THE TRIBES. THE OMINOUS, PERVADING SILENCE FORETELLS THE BATTLE, THE KILLING, THE FLAMING PASSIONS TO COME! DAN BRAND AND TIPI, INTREPID TRAILBLAZERS OF OUR COUNTRY'S EARLY HISTORY, CAN SENSE THIS LURKING TERROR IN THE AIR! THEIR EYES AND EARS FINELY TUNED TO THE SIGNS OF COMING HORROR, THEY MAKE FAST AND HARD DECISIONS IN— **"THE WAR OF THE RIVER!"**

AT THE INDIAN CAMP, CHIEF WARNING THUNDER SPEAKS...

NO! YOU ARE WRONG! LISTEN TO ME—FOR I AM EYE OF HAWK, SECOND IN RANK ONLY TO WARNING THUNDER...

I SAY THAT THIS WILL ONLY LEAD TO MORE WARS THAT WILL WIPE OUT ALL OF US! WE MUST FIND WAYS OF LIVING IN PEACE WITH THE WHITE MAN!

SUDDENLY—APPEARING AMONG THEM, AS THOUGH FROM NOWHERE!
EYE OF HAWK IS RIGHT!
A WHITE MAN AMONG US!

THERE IS NO STOPPING THE MARCH OF HISTORY! THE SETTLERS WILL COME DESPITE EVERYTHING! LIVE AT PEACE WITH THEM—AND GREAT RICHES WILL COME TO THE LAND. BUT IF YOU MAKE WAR—SOLDIERS WILL COME, THERE WILL BE DESTRUCTION AND DEATH—AND NO ONE WILL GAIN!

THE WHITE MAN SPEAKS TRUTH!
NO! THE WHITE MAN SPEAKS LIES! AND I AM YOUR CHIEF—YOU WILL OBEY ME! I, CHIEF WARNING THUNDER, SAY—

—SEIZE THE INVADER! KILL HIM! WE WILL SEND HIS SCALP BY ARROW INTO THE HEART OF THE SETTLERS' CHIEF!
KILL! KILL! KILL!

I DON'T AGREE, GENTLEMEN!

CATCH HIM!
KILL!

I DON'T LIKE TO UPSET ANYBODY'S HOUSE, BUT...

...THAT OUGHT TO HOLD THEM WHILE I CLEAR THIS FIELD TO THE WOODS!

OH-OH!
THIS ARROW POINTS THE WAY TO DEATH, WHITE INVADER!

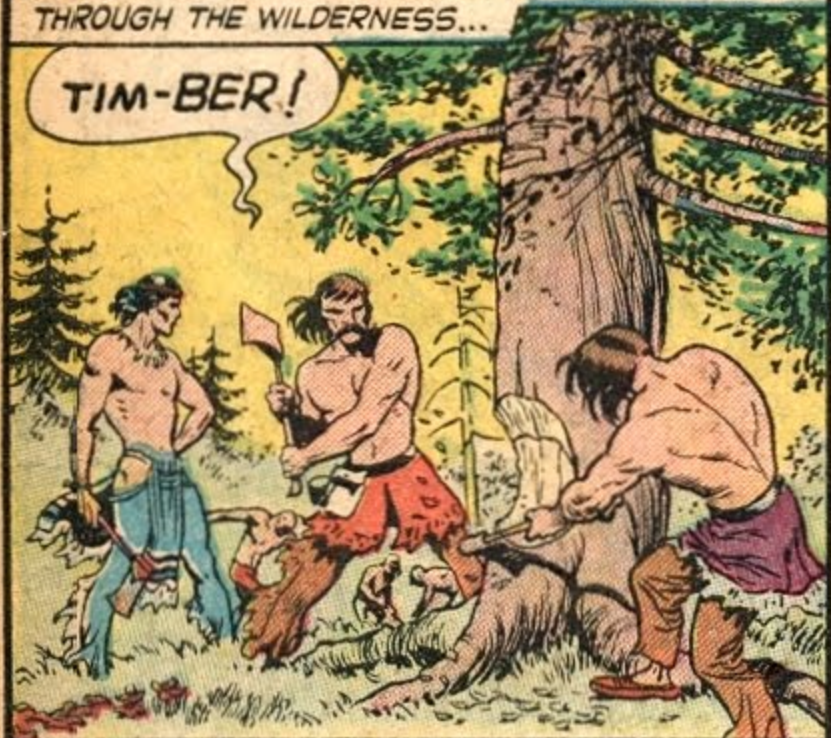
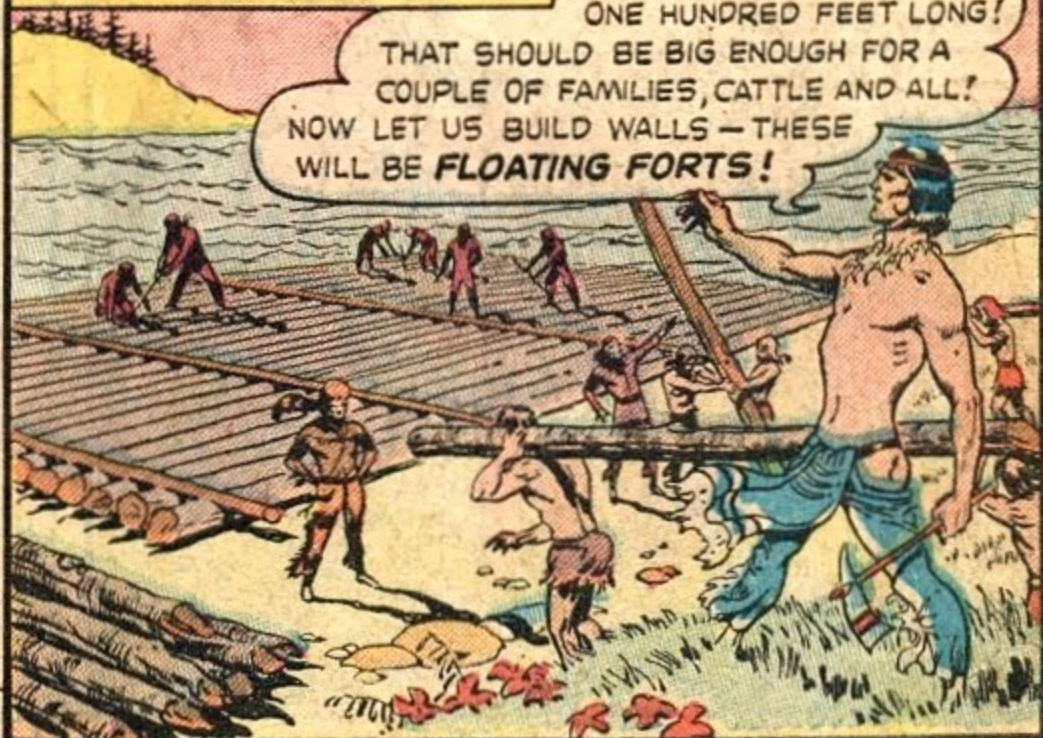
BUT...
GOOD BOY, TIPI!
QUICK, DAN— INTO THE WOODS!

THERE'S NO STOPPING THEM, TIPI— THEY'RE ON THE WARPATH! WE'VE GOT TO GET TO THE SETTLERS AND PREPARE THEM FOR WAR!
IT'S A THREE DAY TRIP—BUT WE SHALL DO IT IN TWO!

AND— TWO DAYS LATER...
HOLD YER FIRE, MEN! I'LL BE HANGED IF THAT AIN'T DAN BRAND AND HIS SIDEKICK, TIPI— THAT WE HEERD SO MUCH ABOUT!

DAN TELLS HIS STORY...
...AND SO I WARN YOU NOT TO TAKE THE TRAILS. YOU'LL GET AMBUSHED AND MASSACRED FOR SURE! THEY'RE OUT TO KILL!
WE COME THIS FAR, AN' BY GUM, WE AIN'T TURNIN' BACK! WE AIM TO SETTLE ON THEM RICH LANDS DOWN ALONG THE RIVER! TELL US WHAT TO DO, DAN BRAND!

THEN SETTLE ON THOSE LANDS YOU SHALL! HAVE ALL ABLE-BODIED MEN GRAB THEIR AXES AND FOLLOW ME!

DAN LEADS THE SETTLERS TO A NEARBY PINE FOREST AND SOON A MIGHTY ACTIVITY CLAMORS THROUGH THE WILDERNESS...
TIM-BER!

AND SOON, STRANGE-LOOKING CRAFT BEGIN TO TAKE SHAPE AT THE RIVER'S EDGE.
ONE HUNDRED FEET LONG! THAT SHOULD BE BIG ENOUGH FOR A COUPLE OF FAMILIES, CATTLE AND ALL! NOW LET US BUILD WALLS—THESE WILL BE FLOATING FORTS!

THE FIRST FLEET OF "FORTIFIED RAFTS" FLOATS DOWN THE RIVER WITH THE CURRENT!
WE'RE OFF!

THIS IS NO GUARANTEE THAT WE WON'T BE ATTACKED, EVEN ON THE RIVER—BUT WE'LL HAVE A BETTER CHANCE TO DEFEND OURSELVES THIS WAY!

INDIANS! THOUSANDS OF 'EM!

ALL MEN TO THE FIRING-PORTS! WOMEN, LOAD MUSKETS! CHILDREN MEASURE POWDER! FIGHT!

AND THE BATTLE OF THE RIVER IS ON!
MABU KONIHO KA! DIE FOR GLORY, WARRIORS!
BRING ALL RAFTS ALONGSIDE! A SOLID FRONT!

AND, UNDER DAN'S LEADERSHIP, A SOLID WALL OF RAFTS, FROM BANK TO BANK, SWEEPS LIKE A CRUSHING JUGGERNAUT UPON THE TINY CANOES!

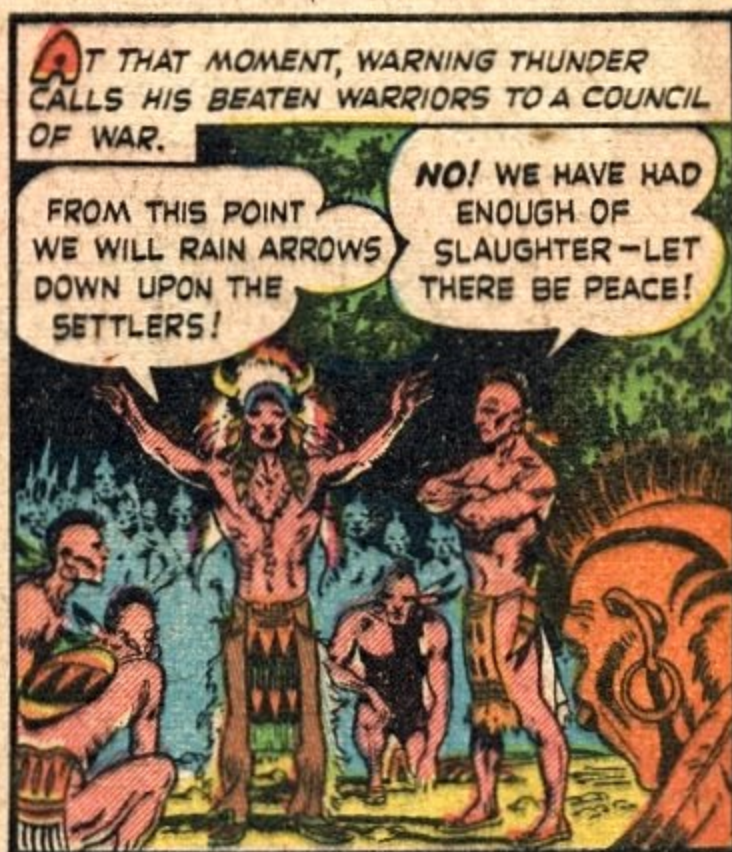
A FEW INDIANS MANAGE TO SCALE THE WALL—
DON'T LET THEM GET A FOOTING! NOT AN INCH, PIONEERS!

—BUT THEY ARE QUICKLY REPELLED!
TURN BACK, BRAVES! TURN BACK—WE ARE BEATEN! RETREAT! KAMA HAPAI!

THEY'RE RETREATING! WE BEAT THEM!
BUT THEY'LL BE BACK. WE'VE JUST WON A BATTLE, NOT A WAR!

SOME WAY MUST BE FOUND TO BRING PEACE! LET'S GO, TIPI!
WITH YOU, BROTHER!

THIS MAY COST US OUR LIVES, LITTLE BROTHER!
SWIM ON, DAN!

THEY OUGHT TO REASSEMBLE FARTHER DOWN THE RIVER AND HAVE A POW-WOW. WE ARE GOING TO WALK RIGHT INTO THE MIDDLE OF THAT COUNCIL!

AT THAT MOMENT, WARNING THUNDER CALLS HIS BEATEN WARRIORS TO A COUNCIL OF WAR.
FROM THIS POINT WE WILL RAIN ARROWS DOWN UPON THE SETTLERS!
NO! WE HAVE HAD ENOUGH OF SLAUGHTER—LET THERE BE PEACE!

ACCORDING TO OUR TRADITIONS, A DEFEATED CHIEF IS NO LONGER CHIEF! THEREFORE, I, EYE OF HAWK—AM YOUR NEW LEADER! AND I SAY TO MAKE PEACE WITH THE WHITE MEN!
HE IS RIGHT—IT IS OUR LAW!

BUT SOME LAWS MUST BE BROKEN! AND THE SKULLS OF COWARDS MUST BE BROKEN! DIE, EYE OF HAWK—DIE!

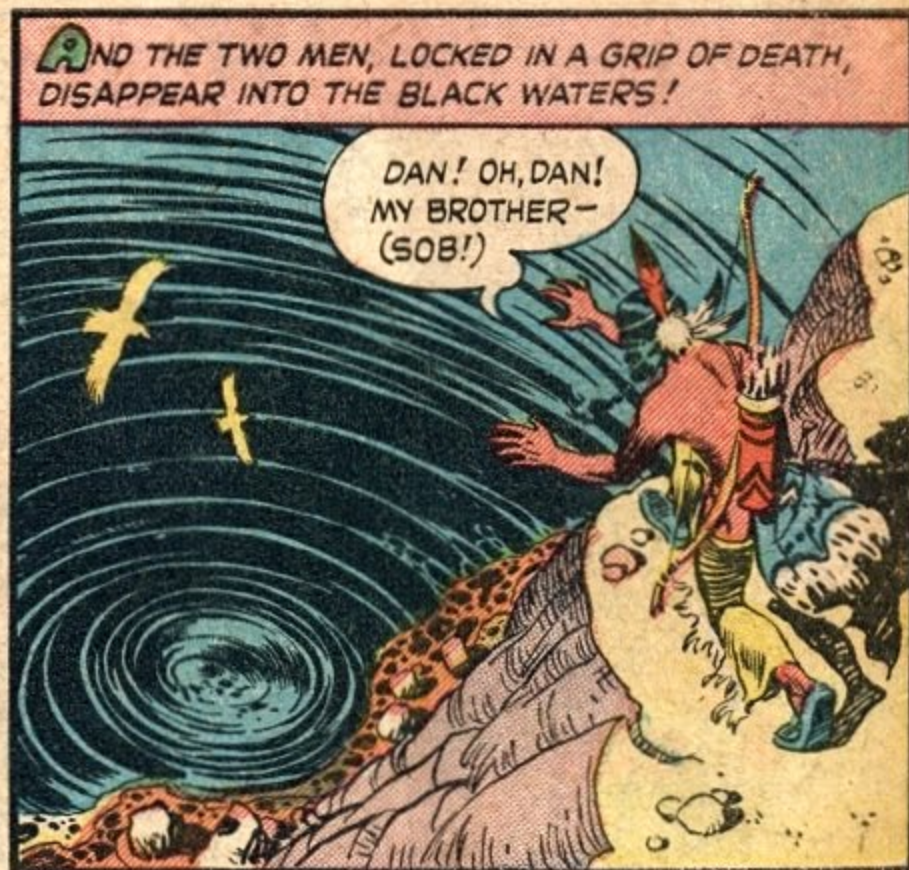
BUT, SUDDENLY, FROM THE BUSHES—JUST IN TIME—!
THE WHITE INVADER!

I WANTED TO TALK PEACE— BUT IF IT'S A FIGHT YOU WANT...

THEN IT'S FIGHT YOU'LL GET!

I WILL DIE, WHITE MAN—FOR LIFE IS OVER FOR ME. I HAVE LOST A BATTLE AND I AM NO LONGER CHIEF...

... BUT YOU DIE WITH ME! MA-BO DAKINO RA! ANCESTORS, I COME!

AND THE TWO MEN, LOCKED IN A GRIP OF DEATH, DISAPPEAR INTO THE BLACK WATERS!
DAN! OH, DAN! MY BROTHER— (SOB!)

BUT—AFTER WHAT SEEMS LIKE AN ETERNITY— ONE MAN RISES!
IT'S DAN!
IT'S THE WHITE MAN—THE SETTLERS' WARRIOR!

I HAVE KILLED ONE OF YOUR CHIEFS- YET I SAY I COME IN PEACE!
I BELIEVE YOU, DAN BRAND— FOR YOU SAVED MY LIFE! AND I SWEAR, MY FRIEND—THAT AS LONG AS I AM CHIEF, THERE WILL BE PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP!